**The Spanish American War**

1. **CAUSES:**
   1. **Cuban Independence:** Cuba wanted to be **INDEPENDENT** from **SPAIN**, but **SPAIN** wanted to keep Cuba as a colony because of its natural resources and ports. The Cubans wanted freedom! The Cubans burned fields and buildings. The Cubans were treated harshly under Spanish rule. Thousands were imprisoned. The **UNITED STATES** supported Cuban independence.

* 1. **U. S. involvement**:
     1. **Protection of American Investments: Cuban – Spanish fighting disrupted trade.**

* + 1. **Yellow Journalism: exaggerated stories about Spanish**
    2. **USS Maine: U.S. battleship sent to Cuba to protect American citizens and property. US ship sunk in Havana Harbor. Yellow journalism used to convince the US to declare war on Spain.**



1. **KEY EVENTS AND IMPORTANT PEOPLE:**
   1. **William McKinley: President during the Spanish-American war.**
   2. **Theodore Roosevelt: resigned as Asst. Secretary of the Navy to form a cavalry unit known as the ROUGH RIDERS. He led them to victory at San Juan Hill.**
   3. **Rough Riders: group of soldiers formed by T. Roosevelt. Charged up San Juan Hill.**
   4. **Battle of San Juan Hill: marked the turning point in the war-the Spanish were defeated.**
   5. **“Remember the Maine”: rallying cry for the war**
   6. **“Splendid Little War”: Secretary of State-JOHN HAY called the war this because it only lasted 4 ½ months.**
   7. **Jose Marti’: Cuban resistance fighter living in New York. Urged Cubans to revolt against Spain.**
   8. **Emilio Aguinaldo: Led the Filipino resistance against Spain and then against the US.**
   9. **Commodore George Dewey: Led the US fleet against the Spanish fleet in the Philippines. He defeated the Spanish navy at Manila Bay. This was the FIRST battle of the war.**



1. **RESULTS:** 
   1. **Cuban Independence: won from Spain.**
   2. **Platt Amendment: Cuba had to add to its constitution. It said the US could intervene in Cuban affairs anytime there is a threat to life, liberty or property.**
   3. **United States gained territory: Guam, Puerto Rico, and Philippines (for a time)**
   4. MCj04103450000[1]MCj04151900000[1]**Unites States emerged as a WORLD POWER!**